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Signature

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. :  
Based on : PCT/BR2005/000102  
Filed : June 8, 2005  
Int'l Priority : July 2, 2004  
Applicants : Jose Barbosa Mendes, Jr. et al.  
Filed : Concurrently  
Title : Laterally Curved Surgical Clip  
TC/A.U. :  
Examiner :  
Docket No. : 40296-10010  
Customer No.: 21788

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination of the U.S. national phase application filed herewith, it is requested that the Patent Office enter the following Preliminary Amendment:

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Amendments to the claim begin on page 2.

**REMARKS:**

Remarks begin on page 5.